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TIPS FOR EASIER IRONING

Articles of seersucker, knitted cotton or rayon, or terry cloth don't need ironing . . . save work and cut down on use of electricity.

Fold things evenly for the wringer, hang them straight on the line . . . then you won't have as many wrinkles to iron out.

Put together articles that are ironed with a hot iron . . . those with a somewhat cooler iron. Sprinkle clothes evenly and not too wet. Remember it takes extra heat as well as more of your energy to iron unnecessary moisture out of clothes. Dampen less for an ironer than for hand ironing.

Heat the iron or ironer hot enough for the fabric before you start ironing—but don't overheat. Iron things that take the least heat first.

Have the ironing board well-padded, set at the right height, in a comfortable light . . . sit to iron, especially with an ironer . . . have a comfortable chair of right height and shape . . . have a clothes-rack handy for ironed pieces.

Slow, unhurried, well-directed motions give best results with hand ironing. Iron each part thoroughly dry before going on to another. Start with sleeves, collars, ties, and other dangling parts, and iron with the lengthwise thread of the goods whenever possible.

*Keep this folder in your kitchen.
Refer to it often.*

Prepared by
BUREAU OF HOME ECONOMICS
Agricultural Research Administration
U. S. Department of Agriculture

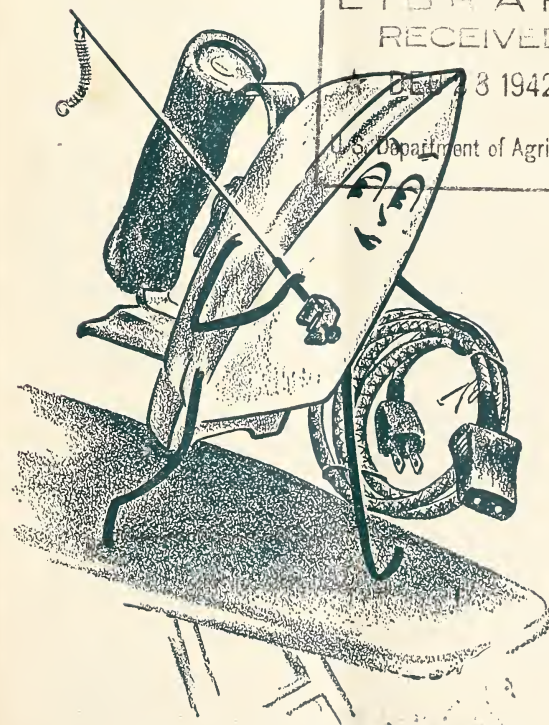
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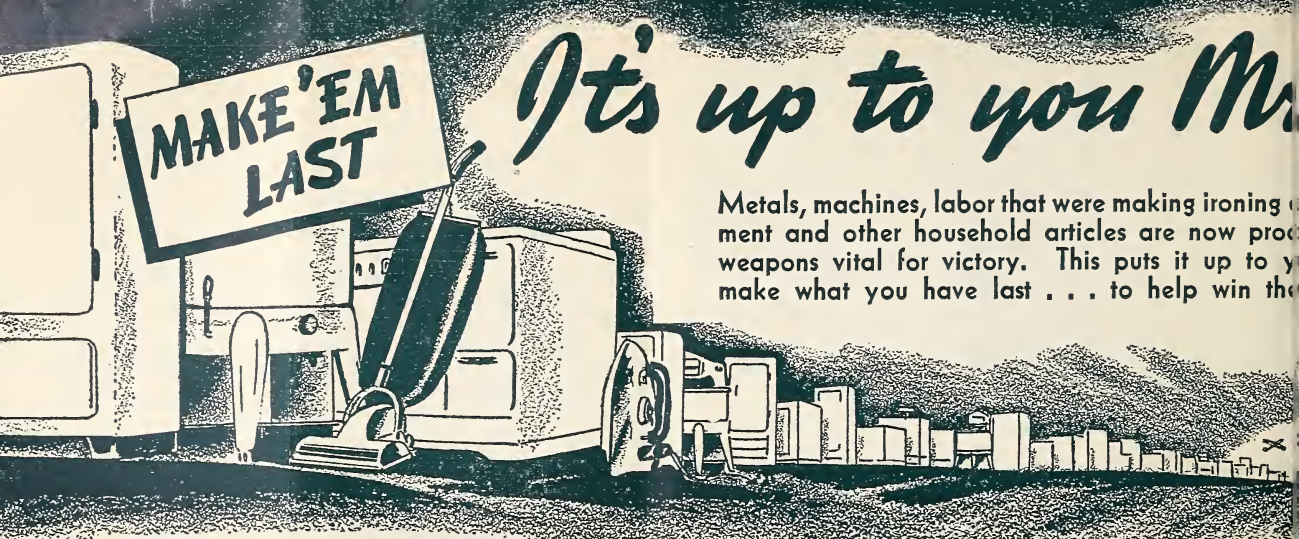
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How To make your **IRONING EQUIPMENT** *last longer*



U. S. GOVERNMENT





It's up to you Ma

Metals, machines, labor that were making ironing equipment and other household articles are now produced as weapons vital for victory. This puts it up to you to make what you have last . . . to help win the war.

connected to the wall outlet may cause sparking. Sparking slowly destroys the metal of the iron terminals and they will have to be replaced.

Use the Right Outlet

Plug your iron into a wall outlet if possible. Don't use a light socket on a drop cord if you can avoid it. It isn't built to carry the current necessary for an electric iron. It won't hurt the iron, although it may heat up more slowly, but overloading the light socket may eventually break down the socket insulation and make it unsafe.

Most convenient location for an iron outlet is on a wall a little higher than the level of the ironing board. That helps to keep the cord from dragging across the board as you iron. There are special gadgets you can buy to keep the cord off the board.

Protect It From Damage

Don't overheat your electric iron—it wastes current, is a fire hazard, is hard on the heating

in the heater wires. It may discolor the iron finish. If overheating causes the plating to peel off, the metal beneath may rust.

Don't drop the iron—you may break a connection inside it . . . break the thermostat or throw it out of adjustment . . . break the thermostat knob. The fall may chip or break the handle or scratch or nick the ironing surface so that it will injure delicate fabrics.

After using an iron, let it cool, then wipe with a damp cloth if necessary to clean, and rub dry. Never put it in water—it may damage the heating element and rust the metal.

Remember to Turn It Off

When you stop to answer doorbell or telephone, pull out the wall plug or turn off the iron; you may be away longer than you think. Most irons reheat quickly. Get the disconnecting habit . . . save your iron and current.

Irons with thermostats in good working order will not overheat if you leave them connected but they go on wastefully using current unless the thermostat is set to "Off."



keep it in order—use

, and Mrs. Homemaker!

Proper use of irons and ironing equipment also contributes to the all-out for victory . . . you not only protect clothes and household fabrics you iron, but save current and your own time and energy as well.



Always set an iron down firmly on a stand or on its heel rest . . . never on a sloping or slippery place. Don't stretch the cord across a space where a hasty foot is likely to trip on it and yank the iron to the floor. Don't set it on the window sill to cool and risk its being knocked off when the window is closed . . . or rained on, which may cause the iron to rust.

A Clean Iron Works Better

It's good housekeeping to keep your iron clean. It will last longer and you can do a better ironing job. Keep the iron dusted and the surface clean and smooth. Remove starch spots with a cloth wrung from soapsuds. If this doesn't work, try a mild scouring powder, or rub lightly with grade 00 steel wool. Wipe off with a damp cloth and then rub dry.

If your iron sticks as you work, rub it on a little salt sprinkled on paper, or smooth with paraffin or beeswax. Putting a pinch of salt in the starch helps to keep starched clothes from sticking to the iron. Once a month, wax the ironing surface while still warm with a small

water deposit on the inside lining of the water compartment and may clog the steam holes. It saves time and current to put hot water in the iron.

Ordinarily iron on the right side of materials. To steam velvet or velour hold the iron about one-fourth inch above the right side . . . for knitted materials about one-half inch.

Rest the iron on a stand when not ironing. When you are through ironing, empty all water from the iron and store with filler cap off to dry out the water compartment.

OLD-STYLE FLATIRONS

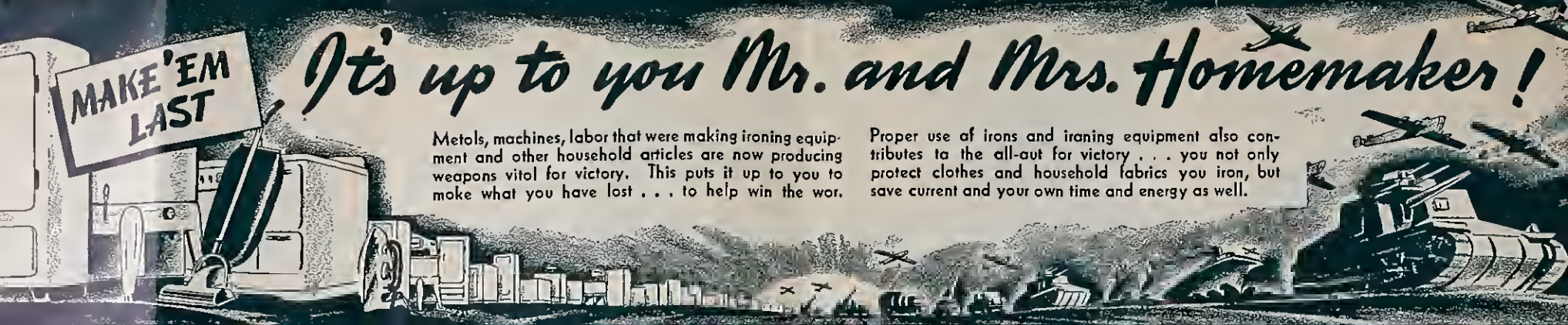
In homes without electric current, ironing is usually done with flatirons of the older type. They are ordinarily used in pairs . . . one heats while the other works. For work requiring very hot irons, three are even better.

It's good planning to have a pair of flatirons in reserve in case of accident to the electric iron or when the current is cut off.

Keep flatirons clean . . . smooth the bottom by rubbing on salt or wax . . . protect them from rust by keeping them dry.

it without waste





MAKE 'EM
LAST

It's up to you Mr. and Mrs. Homemaker!

Metols, machines, labor that were making ironing equipment and other household articles are now producing weapons vital for victory. This puts it up to you to make what you have lost . . . to help win the war.

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MAKE YOUR IRONING EQUIPMENT LAST LONGER

These simple rules will help you get longer, better service from your ironing equipment

- ★ Be sure the current is the right type for your electric iron or ironing machine.
- ★ Don't overheat or get electric irons or ironers wet. Don't drop a hot iron.
- ★ Turn off the electricity when you leave your ironing, even for a few minutes.
- ★ Keep ironing surface clean, smooth, and free from rust.
- ★ Use an electric iron on a special appliance circuit or all by itself on the ordinary house circuit.

ELECTRIC HAND IRONS

Contact!

Before you plug your electric iron into the circuit be sure the current is the right type for your iron.

Irons without thermostats can be used on either alternating or direct current. An iron with a thermostat can be used only on alternating current, and plugging it into direct current may ruin the thermostat.

If you should move, be sure to check on the kind of current in your new home.

Always attach the plug to the iron first; then connect the plug to the wall outlet. Attaching the plug to the iron after the cord has been connected to the wall outlet may cause sparking. Sparking slowly destroys the metal of the iron terminals and they will have to be replaced.

Use the Right Outlet

Plug your iron into a wall outlet if possible. Don't use a light socket on a drop cord if you can avoid it. It isn't built to carry the current necessary for an electric iron. It won't hurt the iron, although it may heat up more slowly, but overloading the light socket may eventually break down the socket insulation and make it unsafe.

Most convenient location for an iron outlet is on a wall a little higher than the level of the ironing board. That helps to keep the cord from dragging across the board as you iron. There are special gadgets you can buy to keep the cord off the board.

Protect It From Damage

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Always set the iron down firmly on its heel rest or on a stand.



Take hold of the plug, not the cord, when you disconnect it from the outlet.

element. In time it may cause a breakdown in the heater wires. It may discolor the iron finish. If overheating causes the plating to peel off, the metal beneath may rust.

Don't drop the iron—you may break a connection inside it . . . break the thermostat or throw it out of adjustment . . . break the thermostat knob. The fall may chip or break the handle or scratch or nick the ironing surface so that it will injure delicate fabrics.

After using an iron, let it cool, then wipe with a damp cloth if necessary to clean, and rub dry. Never put it in water—it may damage the heating element and rust the metal.

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Riding for a Fall

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If your iron sticks as you work, rub it on a little salt sprinkled on paper, or smooth with paraffin or beeswax. Putting a pinch of salt in the starch helps to keep starched clothes from sticking to the iron. Once a month, wax the ironing surface while still warm with a small

amount of paraffin or beeswax. Be sure to wipe off any excess wax.

When You Put It Away

Remove the cord if it is detachable. In disconnecting a detachable cord, take the plug out of the wall outlet first, then remove the plug from the iron. Never pull on the cord to disconnect it . . . take hold of the plug. Strain on the cord may loosen wires from their connection.

Coil the cord loosely or hang where it will not bend sharply. Sharp bending may injure the wire.

When you put away an iron with a permanently attached cord, cool the iron before you coil the cord around the handle. Always avoid touching the cord with the hot iron or you may injure both cord covering and insulation.

STEAM IRONS

Steam irons are electric irons that steam and dampen as they work. They require the same care as other electric irons. Some steam irons can be used without water—as an ordinary electric iron.

Follow the manufacturer's directions for your particular iron. If water is required in your iron set it flat before you start to fill it. Use soft or boiled water. Minerals of hard water deposit on the inside lining of the water compartment and may clog the steam holes. It saves time and current to put hot water in the iron.

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Rest the iron on a stand when not ironing. When you are through ironing, empty all water from the iron and store with filler cap off to dry out the water compartment.

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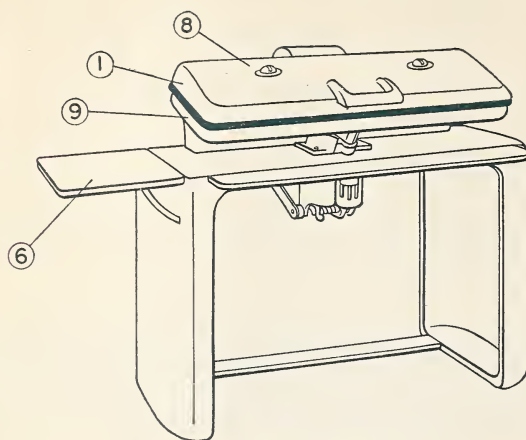
Keep flatirons clean . . . smooth the bottom by rubbing on salt or wax . . . protect them from rust by keeping them dry.



keep it in order—use it without waste

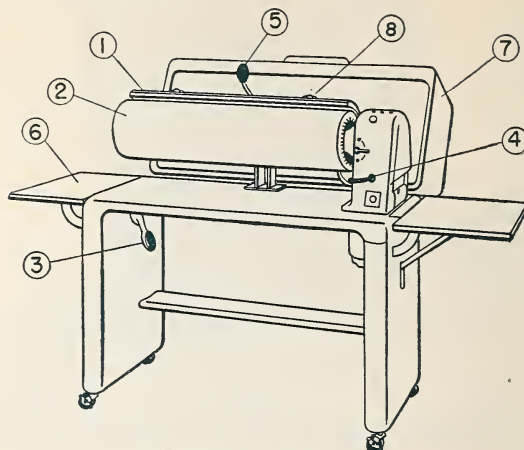


ELECTRIC IRONERS



FLAT PLATE

1. Shoe.
2. Roller.
3. Knee control.



ROTARY ROLL

4. Fingertip control.
5. Emergency release.
6. Work table.

7. Table top cover.
8. Thermostat.
9. Ironing board.

FOR BEST RESULTS an electric ironer, because of its high wattage, should be used on a special appliance circuit. If you don't have this type and must use your ironer on an ordinary house circuit, don't use any other appliance on that circuit at the same time. You may blow a fuse.

The metal ironer shoe corresponds to the ironing surface (sole plate) of a hand iron, and the padded roller or ironing table to the ironing board. The heating element is inside the shoe. The care for an ironer shoe is the same as for an electric iron . . . protect the surface from damage.

Before and After Use

P If the ironer has been stored in a cold place, let it stand an hour or so in a warm room before starting the motor, to soften the grease and oil that make it operate easily.

When you finish ironing, dry the padded roll or board by running the hot shoe over it a few times. A damp roll or pad may mildew.

Wipe the shoe dry to prevent rusting. Separate the shoe and pad, and cover the machine to keep out dust.

To Keep It in Order

Distribute the ironing over the entire ironing surface. This keeps the pad from packing unevenly and the ironing shoe from getting too hot in unused spots and scorching cover and pad.

To freshen the padding when it packs with use, take off the muslin cover, then the padding . . . be sure to check the way it fits on the roller or table . . . fluff it up, reverse it, air it . . . replace it.

Avoid ironing over anything hard that might injure the ironing surface. Turn buttons, snaps, zippers, and other hard, bumpy things toward the padding.

Make an extra pad cover to use when one is being washed. Use original cover as a pattern.

Follow the manufacturer's directions for oiling the mechanism.